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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): M. KURANO, ET AL

Serial No.

Filed

: HEREWITH

For

: MICROACTUATOR DEVICE WITH

A COUNTERMEASURE FOR PARTICLES ON A CUT FACE

THEREOF

Art Unit

Examiner

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

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Date of Deposit: August 2, 2001 I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.

Portnoy

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith. please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute amended claims 9 and 14; and add new claims 16 and 17, as follows:

(Amended). A microactuator device according to any one of claims 1 through 5, 7 or 8, wherein said microactuator device comprises a multilayer structure which includes a plurality of piezoelectric elements and a plurality of internal electrodes alternately laminated and which includes said cut face.

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14. (Amended) A disk recording apparatus comprising:

the head supporting arrangement according to any one of claims 10 through 12; and

a head supported by said support spring of said head supporting arrangement to access a rotary disk, the microactuator device of said head supporting arrangement carrying out fine adjustment of a positional relationship of said head with respect to said disk.

Add new claims 16 and 17, as follows:

- --16. (New) A microactuator device according to claim 6, wherein said microactuator device comprises a multilayer structure which includes a plurality of piezoelectric elements and a plurality of internal electrodes alternately laminated and which includes said cut face.
- 17. (New) A disk recording apparatus comprising:
 the head supporting arrangement according to claim 13;
 and

a head supported by said support spring of said head supporting arrangement to access a rotary disk, the microactuator device of said head supporting arrangement carrying out fine adjustment of a positional relationship of said head with respect to said disk.

REMARKS

Prior to examination, it is respectfully requested that the above amendments be entered in the application. Claims 9 and 14 have been amended to eliminate improper multiple dependencies. In addition, minor grammatical amendments have been made to claims 9 and 14.

Claims 16 and 17 have been added to depend from claims 6 and 13, respectively. Claims 16 and 17 respectively correspond to claims 9 and 14.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

- 9. (Amended). A microactuator device according to any one of claims 1 through <u>5</u>, <u>7 or</u> 8, wherein said microactuator device [comprising] <u>comprises</u> a multilayer structure which includes a plurality of piezoelectric elements and a plurality of internal electrodes [alternatively] <u>alternately</u> laminated and which [has] <u>includes</u> said cut face.
- 14. (Amended) A disk recording apparatus comprising:

 the head supporting arrangement according to any one of claims 10 through [13] 12; and

a head supported by said support spring of said head supporting arrangement to access [to] a rotary disk, the microactuator device of said head supporting arrangement carrying out fine adjustment of a positional relationship of said head with respect to said disk.